





















DINING ROOM, YORK HALL, YORKTOWN, VA. 1740.



# ARCHITECTURE OF THE OLD SOUTH

BY ERNEST RAY DENMARK

*With a Foreword by  
Lewis E. Crook, Jr.*



*Photographic Plates  
Illustrating the Better Work  
Between 1640 and 1850*

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# Foreword

SO LITTLE has been published in comparison with the wealth of material of real architectural merit which the South produced during the Colonial and Post-Revolutionary periods, this collection of illustrations has been made with the desire to present an adequate number of representative types, chosen from different sections of the South. An attempt has been made to present examples which illustrate three distinct types of the traditional architecture of the South; namely, the Colonial architecture of Maryland and Virginia, the old buildings of Charleston, and the lesser known examples of the classic revival which are scattered through Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.

The restful, simple dignity of these old buildings reflect a picturesque period in Southern life; a period which was brilliant socially when European manners and customs prevailed and culture and refinement were characteristic. They are the product of an age that had some regard for the forms and amenities of social intercourse, a time of leisure and manners, of travel and study. In the quiet restraint and dignity of their settings, these homes of a bygone generation are expressive of a very high form of civilization. There is a beautiful propriety and air of distinction about them which reveals them to be the residences of a well-bred and cultured people.

In reviewing these buildings of the eighteenth century one is constantly tempted to make the analogy between them and the contemporary buildings of England. The Georgian influence dominated the design of the Colonial work of Maryland and Virginia. The buildings, for the most part, were studied from the designs of Inigo Jones and Gibbs, while a number of them were actually designed by Georgian architects. The same influence, assimilated with the ideas of the French and of San Domingo, inspired the old buildings of Charleston and asserted itself in many other sections of the far South.

With the dawn of the nineteenth century came the Greek revival temple house, which had no counterpart in Europe. The direct classicism of the revivalist in the temple form of architecture first gained a foothold in the South and produced our own great national style in architecture — America's independent contribution to the art. While this style has for nearly a century been subjected to adverse criticism and regrettable scorn, there is, however, evidence of a growing appreciation and fondness for it today. Historically, it is our appropriate style. Above all, it expresses a simplicity, a restraint, and such exquisite harmony that is needed in our modern architecture.

There is an interesting variety of the old houses in the lowlands of the South in which the principal floor is elevated several feet from the ground. This



fashion produced a great diversity of exterior stairs with admirable specimens of wrought iron work, and gave these houses an air very different from those built at the same time in Maryland and Virginia.

The small houses of the South have not received as ample a recognition as they merit. The majority of them evince careful study in composition and in the intention of the detail, and in some way they are more attractive than the larger and more pretentious homes.

The beauty and charm of these old structures appeals specifically to the architect, and in a more general way to all who appreciate beauty and educated taste. The editor, in compiling this book, has kept in mind the practical value of illustrations without the historical text which has been ably written elsewhere. It is his intention to supplement this volume with others in the future.

LEWIS E. CROOK, Jr.

Atlanta, Georgia  
February 17, 1926.



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MONTPELIER, LAUREL, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD. 1710





ENTRANCE FRONT, MONTPELIER



GARDEN SIDE, MONTPELIER





LOWER STAIR HALL, MONTPELIER



UPPER STAIR HALL, MONTPELIER





DINING ROOM, MONTPELIER



LIVING ROOM, MONTPELIER



DOUGHOREGAN MANOR, HOWARD COUNTY, MD. 1717



RECEPTION ROOM, DOUGHOREGAN MANOR





PARLOR, DOUGHOREGAN MANOR



LIVING ROOM, DOUGHOREGAN MANOR





DINING ROOM, DOUGHOREGAN MANOR



DINING ROOM, DOUGHOREGAN MANOR





DINING ROOM, ORIOLE, SOMERSET COUNTY, MD.



DINING ROOM, HOUSE IN BALTIMORE, MD.





REAR VIEW, YORK HALL, YORKTOWN, VA. 1740





FRONT, YORK HALL

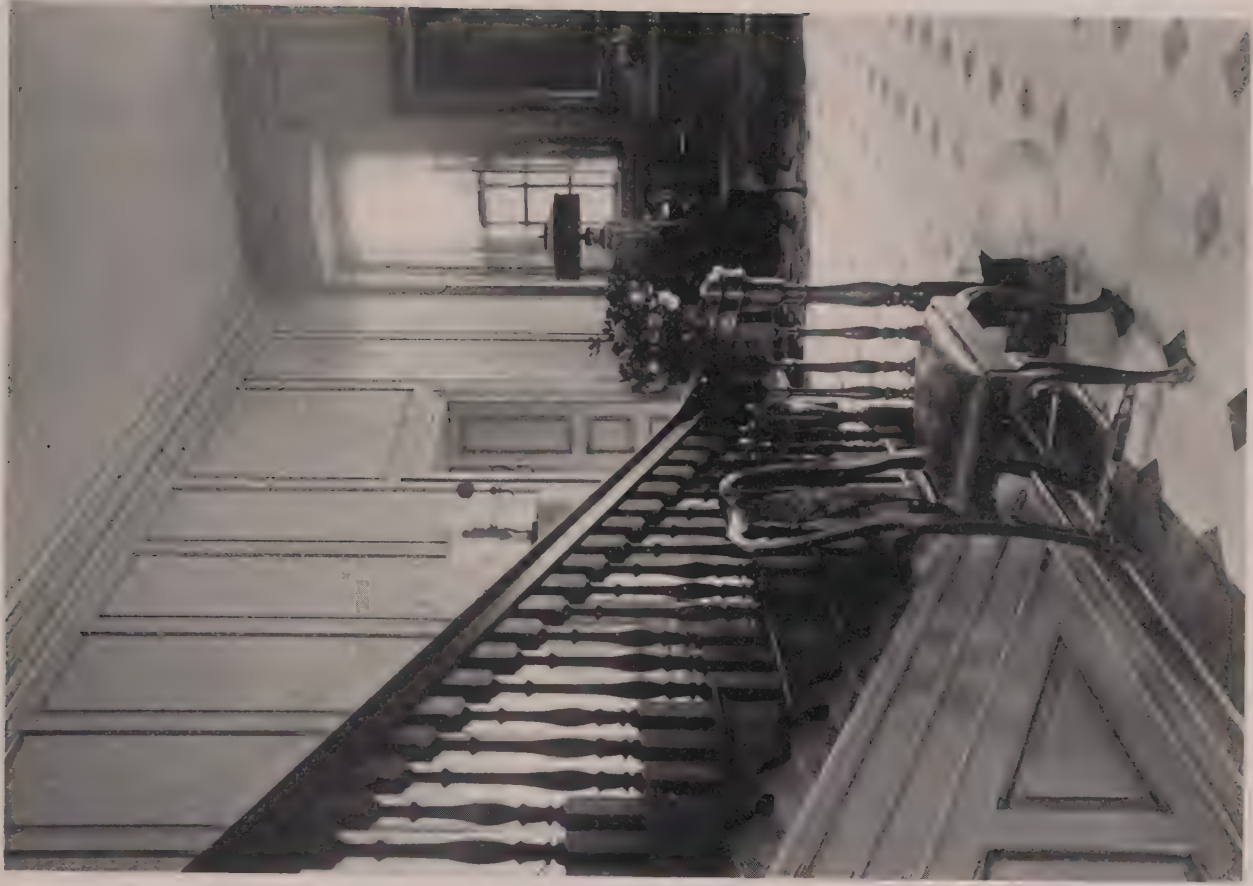


REAR, YORK HALL





ENTRANCE, YORK HALL



STAIR, YORK HALL





ENTRANCE HALL, YORK HALL



LIVING ROOM, YORK HALL



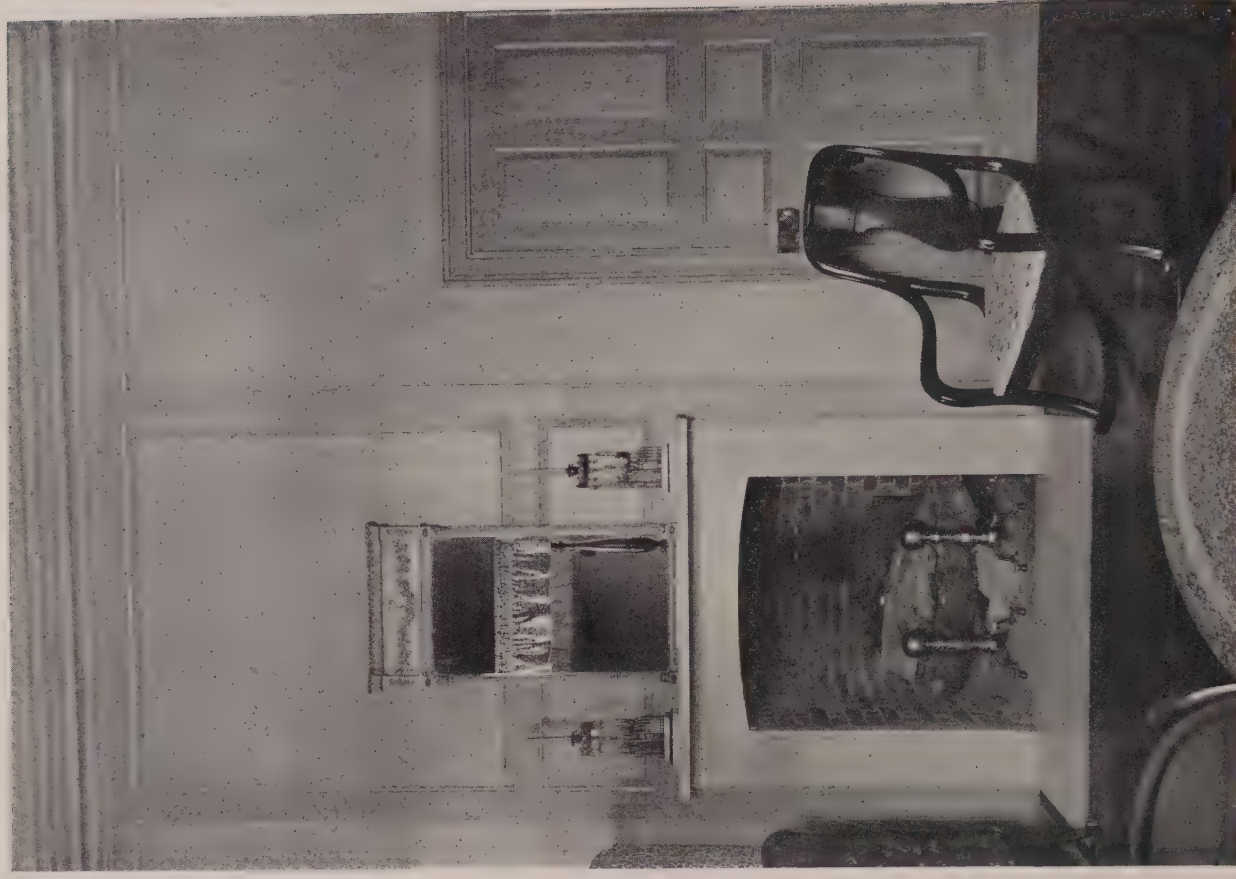


DINING ROOM, YORK HALL





STUDY, YORK HALL



GUEST ROOM, YORK HALL





CHATHAM, STAFFORD COUNTY, VA. 1727



REAR, CHATHAM





SLAVE QUARTERS, CHATHAM



TEA HOUSE IN GARDEN, CHATHAM





TUCKAHOE, GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA. 1730



STAIR DETAIL, TUCKAHOE





KENMORE, FREDERICKSBURG, VA. 1752



ENTRANCE DETAIL, KENMORE

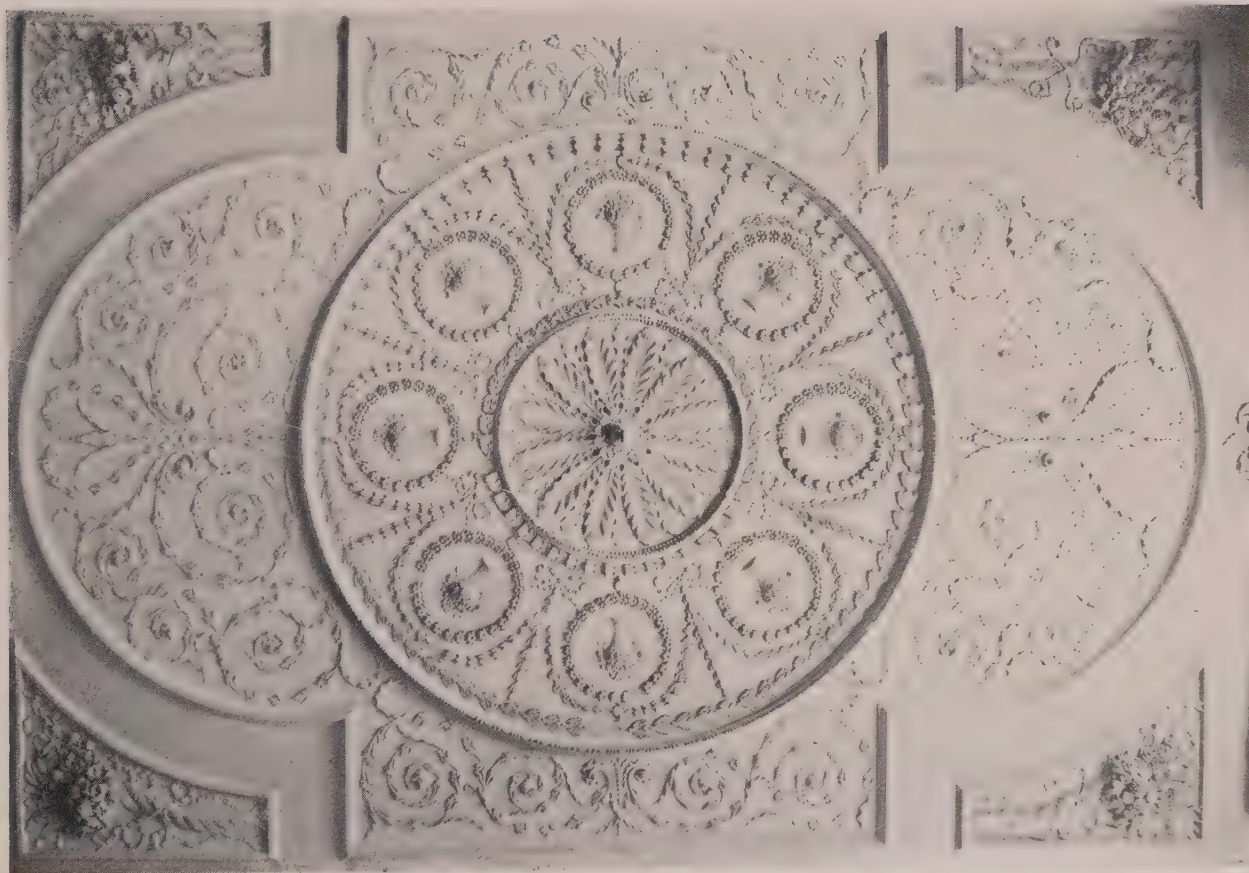


SIDE PORTICO, KENMORE





SALON, KENMORE



CEILING DETAIL, KENMORE





DOOR DETAIL, KENMORE

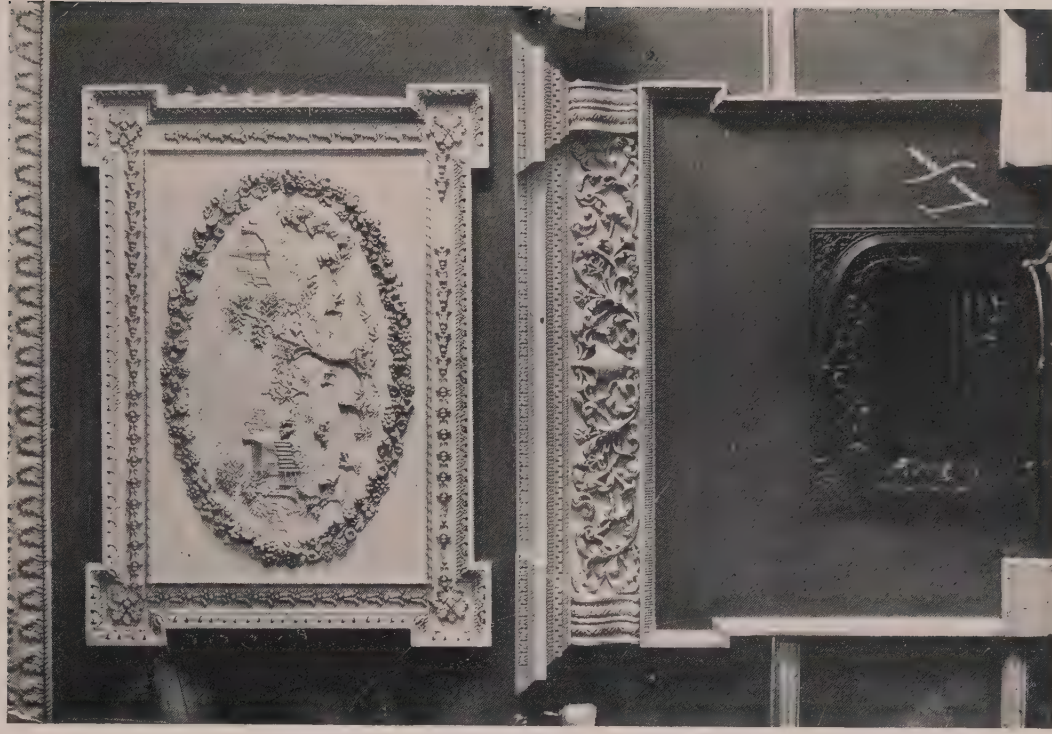


STAIR, KENMORE





MANTEL DETAIL, KENMORE



MANTEL DETAIL, KENMORE





SHIRLEY, JAMES RIVER, VA. 1640



LOWER BRANDON, JAMES RIVER, VA. 1712





SABINE HALL, RICHMOND COUNTY, VA. 1750



STRATFORD HOUSE, WESTMORELAND COUNTY, VA. 1740





WESTOVER, JAMES RIVER, VA. 1730





DRAWING ROOM, MARMION, KING GEORGE COUNTY, VA.





VAN LEW HOUSE, RICHMOND, VA. 1790



REAR, VAN LEW HOUSE, RICHMOND, VA.





MYERS HOUSE, NORFOLK, VA. 1791



STAIR HALL, MYERS HOUSE





HALL, MYERS HOUSE





LIVING ROOM, MYERS HOUSE





DINING ROOM, MYERS HOUSE





STAIR HALL, CARTER'S GROVE, JAMES CITY COUNTY, VA. 1722





PARLOR, CARTER'S GROVE



LIVING ROOM, CARTER'S GROVE





HAMPSTEAD, NEW KENT COUNTY, VA. 1820



FRONT, HAMPSTEAD





STAIR HALL, HAMPSTEAD





BULL HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C.





ENTRANCE, BULL HOUSE





ENTRANCE, TUPPER HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C.





SMYTH HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C. 1759.





BULL PRINGLE HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C.





LOWER STAIR HALL, BENNETT HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C. 1767.





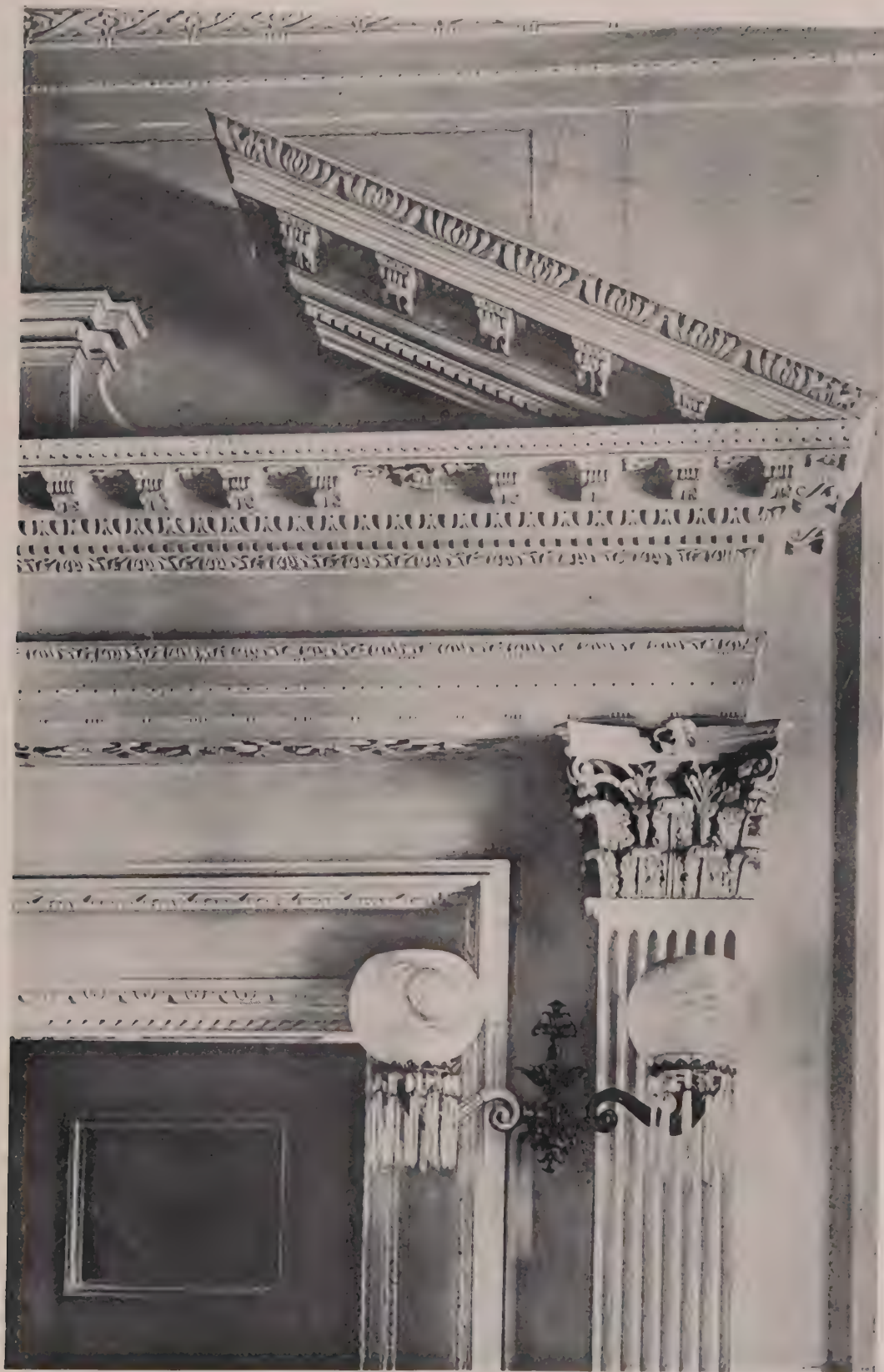
UPPER STAIR HALL, BENNETT HOUSE





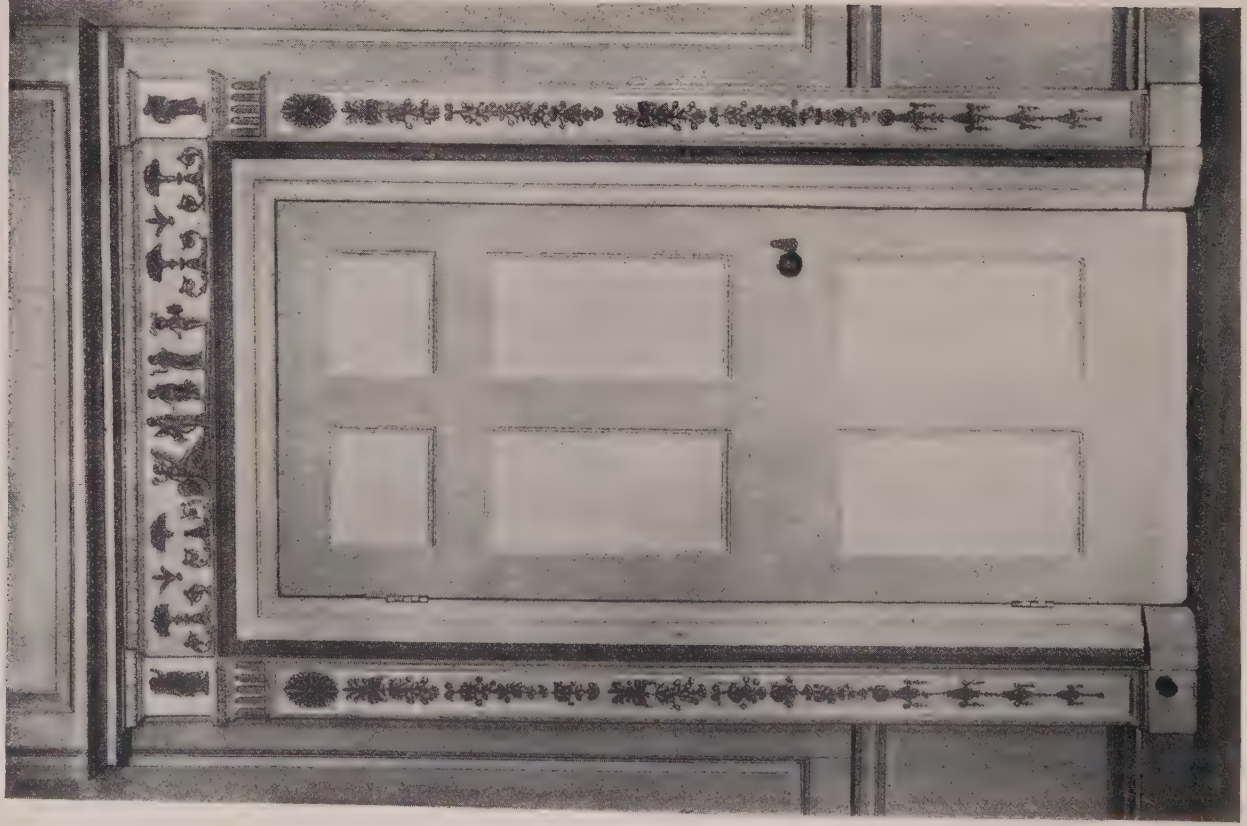
MANTEL DETAIL, BREWTON HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C. 1765.



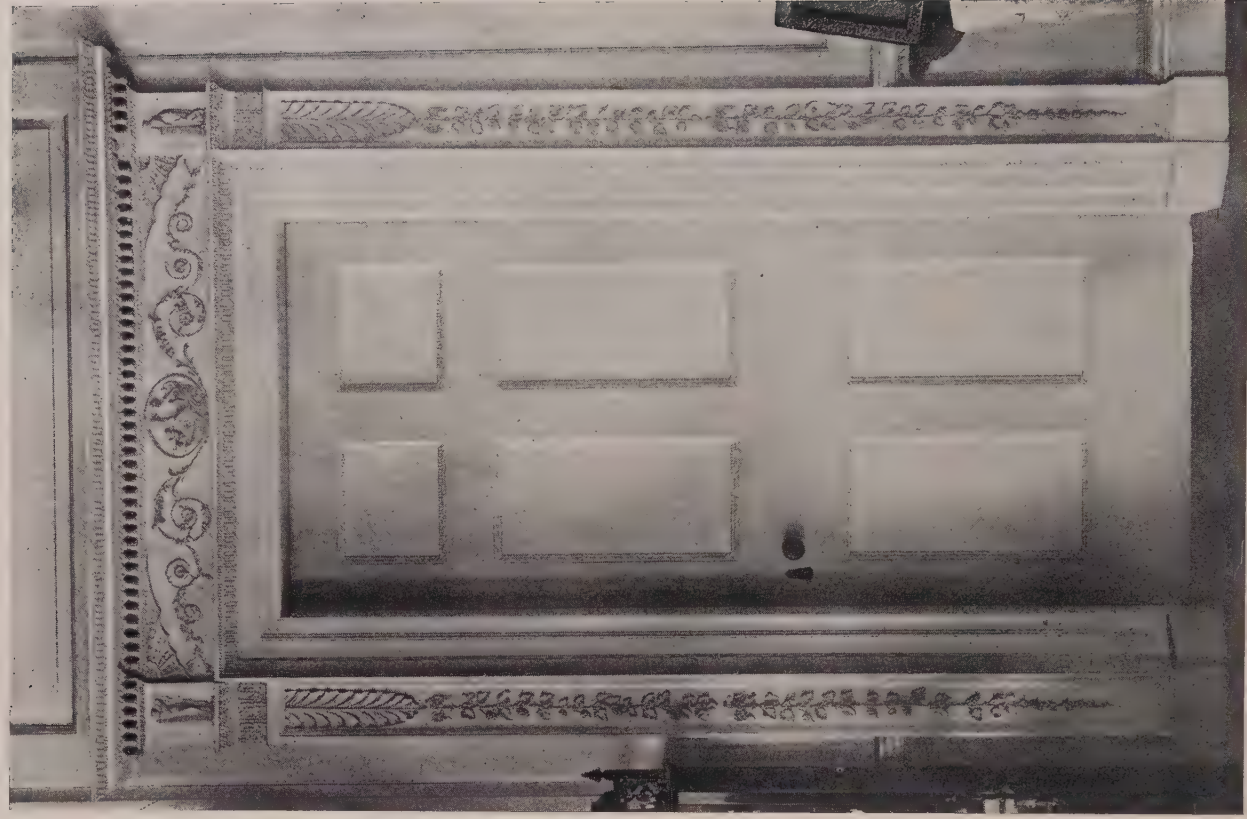


DOOR DETAIL, BREWTON HOUSE





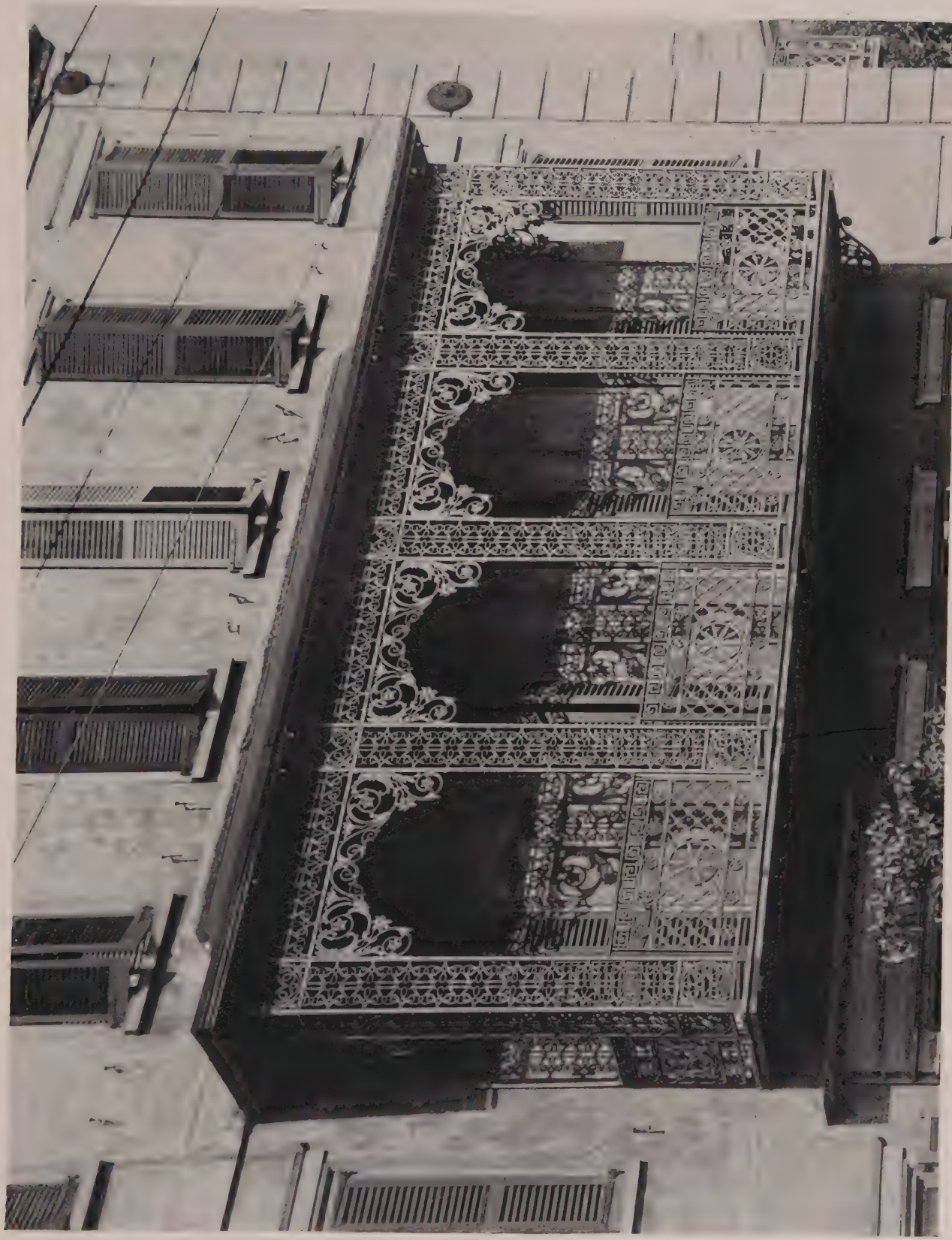
DOOR DETAIL



DOOR DETAIL

GIBBS HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C. 1764





LADSON HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C.





WHILDEN HOUSE, CHARLESTON, S. C.





OWENS HOUSE, SAVANNAH, GA. 1812

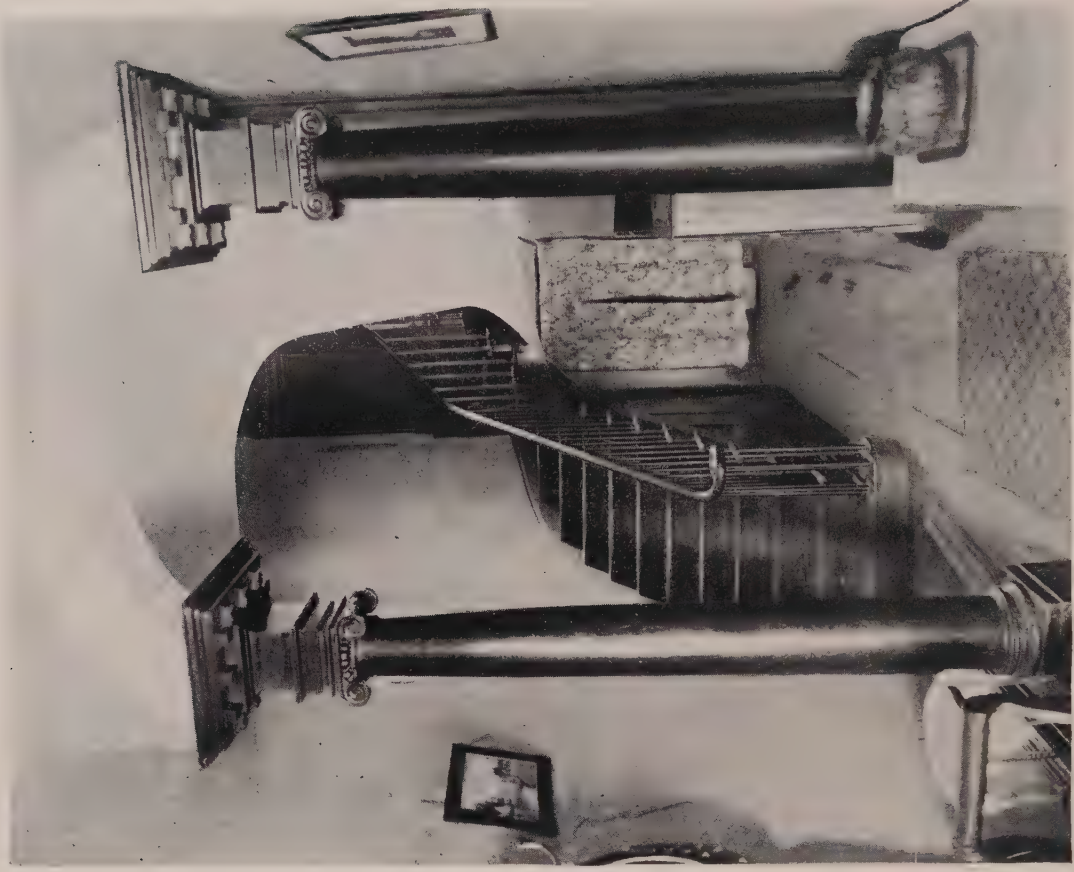


DRAWING ROOM, OWENS HOUSE





STAIR HALL, DAVENPORT HOUSE



STAIRWAY, OWENS HOUSE



DAVENPORT HOUSE, SAVANNAH, GA. 1800





BULLOCH HOUSE, SAVANNAH, GA. 1815



HABERSHAM HOUSE, SAVANNAH, GA. 1803





HERMITAGE, SAVANNAH RIVER, SAVANNAH, GA. 1830





MINUS HOUSE, SAVANNAH, GA. 1812





TELFAR ART GALLERY, SAVANNAH, GA. 1815





GREENWOOD, THOMASVILLE, GA. 1835



LOOKING TOWARD THE GARDENS, GREENWOOD





LEFT WING, GREENWOOD



STAIR HALL, GREENWOOD





BARRINGTON HALL, ROSWELL, GA.





COLONIAL HALL, ATHENS, GA.





RENDER HOUSE, LA GRANGE, GA.





CORCAS HOUSE, TUSCALOOSA, ALA.





PRESIDENT'S HOUSE, U. OF ALA., TUSCALOOSA, ALA.





MONTICELLO, NATCHEZ, MISS.



THE BRIERS, NATCHEZ, MISS.





DEVEREAUX, NATCHEZ, MISS.



FISH HOUSE, NATCHEZ, MISS. 1830





CHRIST CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA, VA. 1773



POHICH CHURCH, NEAR ACCOTINK, VA. 1773





COURTHOUSE, WILLIAMSBURG, VA. 1693





EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BEAUFORT, S. C. 1712



ENTRANCE SIDE, EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BEAUFORT, S. C.





ENTRANCE, EPISCOPAL CHURCH





SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHARLESTON, S. C.





INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SAVANNAH, GA. 1810





CUSTOMS HOUSE, SAVANNAH, GA. 1840





RAILWAY STATION, SAVANNAH, GA. 1844





PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ATHENS, GA. 1820





PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ATHENS, GA.















